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\_\_\_\_ Director

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#### IDFPR COVID-19 Temporary Permit and Temporary Reinstatement FAQs

#### Q. What led IDFPR to issue COVID-19 Temporary Permits?

- **A.** Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation ("IDFPR"), pursuant to various Executive Orders by Governor JB Pritzker, implemented three initiatives to increase the number of healthcare workers in Illinois. These initiatives are dependent on the COVID-19 disaster proclamation and certain executive orders:
  - (1) the temporary reinstatement of physicians, nurses, respiratory healthcare workers, physician assistants, and mental health professionals who were once fully licensed in Illinois;
  - (2) issuing temporary COVID-19 permits to certain health care workers who have an active, unencumbered license in another state; and
  - (3) issuing temporary authorization to International Medical Graduates ("IMG") who possess a medical license in a foreign country.

# Q. What Executive Orders, Proclamations, or Legislation pertain to the COVID-19 Temporary Permits issued by IDFPR?

- Since March 2020, IDFPR has issued temporary COVID-19 permits to out-of-state health care professionals, pursuant to Section 1 of Executive Order 2020-23.
- Since March 2020, IDFPR has issued temporary reinstatements, pursuant to Section 10 of Executive Order 2020-09.
- Since November 2021, IDFPR has issued temporary reinstatements, pursuant to <a href="Executive Order 2021-31"><u>Executive Order 2021-31.</u></a>
- In January 2022, IDFPR issued a proclamation authorizing Illinois-licensed physicians to delegate duties to <u>International Medical Graduates</u> working in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- On January 30, 2023, President Biden declared that the COVID-19 Pandemic Executive Orders will end on May 11, 2023. On January 31, 2023, Governor Pritzker announced that Illinois will follow the federal government's lead and also end the state's public health emergency.
- On April 27, 2023, Governor Pritzker signed HB559 that allows the Secretary of IDFPR to extend the expiration date for IDFPR's COVID-19 Temporary Permits holders.
- On May 4, 2023, IDFPR's Secretary issued a proclamation extending the expiration of temporary permits and temporary reinstatements until July 11, 2023, provided that individuals apply for permanent licensure or reinstatement with the Department prior to the July 11, 2023 expiration. Temporary permit holders and temporary reinstatements who have applied for permanent licensure or petitioned for reinstatement prior to this deadline may continue to practice with the IDFPR COVID-19 Temporary Permit or Temporary Reinstatement until the submitted application or petition is approved, denied, or May 11, 2024, whichever occurs first. If no application for permanent licensure or petition for reinstatement is submitted to the Department, the IDFPR COVID-19 Temporary Permit and Temporary Reinstatement will expire on July 11, 2023. PA 103-0001 is available here: Public Act 0001 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY (ilga.gov)

#### Q. What is the effective date for the end of state COVID-19 Disaster Proclamation?

- A. The Disaster Proclamation will expire May 11, 2023. Since March 2020, the Department has issued temporary permits that were to remain in effect until the expiration of the Gubernatorial COVID-19 Disaster Proclamations. On January 30, 2023, President Biden declared COVID-19 Pandemic Executive Orders will end on May 11, 2023. On January 31, 2023, Governor Pritzker announced that Illinois will follow the federal government's lead and also end pandemic Executive Orders.
- B. *However*, on April 27, 2023, Governor Pritzker signed HB559 that allows the Secretary of IDFPR to extend the expiration date for IDFPR's COVID-19 Temporary Permits and Temporary Reinstatements. On May 4, 2023 IDFPR's Secretary issued a proclamation extending the expiration of temporary permits and temporary reinstatements until July 11, 2023, provided that individuals apply for permanent licensure or reinstatement with the Department prior to the July 11, 2023 expiration.

#### Q. How long will IDFPR accept applications for COVID-19 Temporary Permits?

**A.** The application window for new temporary permits closed March 31, 2023. Temporary permits were issued beyond March 31, 2023, provided the temporary permit application was submitted to the Department as of March 31, 2023.

# Q. Knowing that the Executive Order concludes on May 11, 2023, what the options for licensure?

**A.** In March 2023, the Division of Professional Regulation ("DPR") began notifying COVID-19 temporary permit holders and temporary reinstatements via email of the expiration date and providing information on the process of applying for Illinois licensure by endorsement or reinstatement. Please apply for Licensure or Petition for Reinstatement as soon as possible if you would like to continue practicing after July 11, 2023 (previous deadline was May 11, 2023).

#### 1. In-State COVID-19 Temporary Reinstatement

- i. After July 11, 2023 (previously May 11, 2023), these individuals' license will return to the original status (either Inactive or Not Renewed). However, individuals may continue to practice on their *In-State COVID-19 Temporary Reinstatement* provided that they submit a petition for restoration or reinstatement of their license to the Department on or before July 11, 2023.
- ii. If you are an individual who would like to permanently reinstate your Illinois license to active status, please email <a href="FPR.LMU@illinois.gov">FPR.LMU@illinois.gov</a> for specific instructions on how to apply. Please include "Temporary COVID-19 Reinstatement" in the subject line as well as your full name, license number, and indicate that you currently have a Temporary COVID-19 Reinstatement in the body of the email. The fee and the application type (Reinstatement vs. Restoration) will depend on your status and the date of your last expiration prior to this temporary permit. Additionally, health care workers will also be required to submit a CCA Form linked here:

 $\frac{https://idfpr.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idfpr/forms/dpr/f20}{34crimacts.pdf}$ 

### 2. Out-of-State COVID-19 Temporary Practice Permits

- *i.* After July 11, 2023 (previously May 11, 2023), these individuals' permits will no longer be valid. However, individuals may continue practicing with their out-of-state COVID-19 temporary permit, provided that they submit an application for licensure by endorsement to the Department on or before July 11, 2023.
- ii. If an individual with an out-of-state temporary practice permit would like to apply for licensure via endorsement, they can go to <a href="https://idfpr.illinois.gov/profs/proflist.asp">https://idfpr.illinois.gov/profs/proflist.asp</a> and click on the letter of your profession [Example: Click on "N" for Nurse]. Then click on the professions [Example: "Nurse"]. Finally, look for the endorsement application link.
- *iii.* Note: Applicants licensed in another state or jurisdiction may apply for an Illinois license through the licensure endorsement process. Depending on the specific requirement of the profession's statute and administrative rules, endorsement applicants may not be required to

pass an Illinois examination. If all requirements set forth in the profession's statute and rules are met, items such as proof of education, testing, and experience will be accepted.

#### 3. International Medical Graduates (IMG) Temporary Authorization

- i. International Medical Graduates authorizations will expire on May 11, 2023. However, Governor Pritzker signed HB559 that allows Illinois-license physicians to delegate to Internal Medical Graduate Physicians, as long as the tasks and duties are within the scope of practice, education, training, or experience of the delegating physician.
- ii. An IMG is limited to providing treatment under the supervision of an Illinois-licensed physician.
- iii. The supervising physician or employer must maintain the following:
  - Evidence of education certified by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates;
  - Evidence of passage of Step 1, Step 2 Clinical Knowledge, and Step 3 of the United States Medical Licensing Examination;
  - Evidence of an unencumbered license from another country.

# Q. What happens if I apply for Illinois licensure (either by reinstatement, restoration, or endorsement) and it is not issued by May 11, 2023?

- On April 27, 2023, Governor Pritzker signed HB559 that allows the Secretary of IDFPR to extend the expiration date for IDFPR's COVID-19 Temporary Permits and Temporary Reinstatements.
- On May 4, 2023 IDFPR's Secretary issued a proclamation extending the expiration of temporary permits and temporary reinstatements until <u>July 11, 2023</u>, provided that:
  - 1. *In-State COVID-19 Temporary Reinstatements*, petition for reinstatement prior to the July 11, 2023 expiration. Those who have petitioned for reinstatement prior to this deadline may continue to practice on the IDFPR COVID-19 Reinstatement until their petition is approved, denied, or May 11, 2024, whichever occurs first.
  - 2. *Out-of-State Temporary Practice Permit* holders apply for permanent Illinois licensure prior to the July 11, 2023 expiration. Permit holders who have applied for permanent licensure prior to this deadline may continue to practice on the IDFPR COVID-19 Temporary Practice Permit until their submitted application is approved, denied, or May 11, 2024, whichever occurs first.
- If no application for permanent licensure or petition for reinstatement is submitted to the Department, the IDFPR COVID-19 Temporary Permit and Temporary Reinstatements will expire on July 11, 2023.

### Q. What if I have a question about COVID-19 Temporary Permits?

**A.** For questions regarding how to obtain full or active licensure in Illinois, please email <a href="FPR.LMU@illinois.gov">FPR.LMU@illinois.gov</a>. Please make sure to include "Temporary COVID-19 Reinstatement" in the subject line as well as your full name, license number, and indicate that you currently have a Temporary COVID-19 Reinstatement in the body of the email.

## Q. Where can I find the Temporary COVID-19 Healthcare Workforce Applications?

**A.** As of March 31, 2023, applications are no longer being accepted by the Department.